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Role of CIA in Viet Stand of NSA Cited

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Two Central Intelligence Agency agents played an active role in formulating a National Student Association policy statement on Vietnam, according to the man who revealed the CIA's secret financial support of the student group.

Michael Wood, former NSA director for fund raising, also charged yesterday that the CIA threatened to forge psychiatric records to discredit an NSA officer.

Wood provided Ramparts magazine with material used in its article that first disclosed the CIA's covert financing of the NSA. He appeared on the television program "Issues and Answers" (WMAL, ABC) with NSA President Eugene Groves and Richard Stearns, NSA vice president for international affairs.

At the NSA's congress in 1965, Wood said, two NSA alumni "who were agents of the CIA" organized the "more moderate lobby" on a resolution dealing with Vietnam.

They argued, he said, against a call for a permanent end to U.S. bombing, appar-

ently in the North, and in favor of "a stipulation that the opposite side had to respond in kind to any gestures of the United States."

NSA President Groves did not dispute the role of the alleged CIA agents at the congress, and said it "could be construed as undue influence."

But he added that "in that specific debate on Vietnam," the resolution that the congress ended up by passing, while backed by the two alumni, also was "what the majority of delegates believed and started out believing."

Groves noted that he was the leader of the opposition to the resolution and said that the majority leader did not know of the CIA's relationship with the Association.

Groves said that he knew nothing about any threat involving an NSA official's psychiatric records, and Wood declined to reveal the source of his information or the target of the alleged forgery threat for obvious personal reasons.

But he charged: "There was a threat that was made against one individual to forge psychiatric records and place them in strategic spots in the Government in order to discredit his character, number one, and secondly, to exclude him from a responsible role in the Government in the future."

As to charges that the recent revelations about the CIA damaged the agency's effectiveness in areas of Cold War conflict, Wood said that in the United States is "going to be engaged in a world struggle of ideas, I think we have to compete on our own terms, which means that we have to be true to our own values by using an open, democratic public society."

Groves added that the prospects are "quite good" that the NSA will be able to survive without receiving any more money from the CIA.

On another program, "Face

the Nation" (WTOP, CBS), 1964 Republican presidential nominee Barry M. Goldwater took issue with the CIA for backing the wrong groups.

"I don't see anything wrong with the general idea of using any source to get intelligence," Goldwater said. "But what I question is why all of this money went to left-wing organizations" such as the American Newspaper Guild and the United Auto Workers, instead of conservative groups such as Young Americans for Freedom.

"Why didn't they spread this money around?" Goldwater asked. "In other words, what they have been doing with it, as far as I can see, is to finance socialism in America."

The CIA and its newly revealed role was also the subject of an hour-long special version of "Meet the Press" (WRC, NBC).

Some of the highlights:

- The disclosures are, "in a sense, a tempest in a teapot," according to Robert Amory, former deputy CIA director for intelligence. Intelligence operations have been taken for granted for centuries in the free society of Britain and the press "might just as well be in the business of scuttling carriers in the Tonkin Gulf" as revealing CIA activities.

- "I think we could have abolished secrecy in this case," according to Sen. Joseph S. Clark (D-Pa.), a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. "The easy way out was to let the CIA do it."

- The CIA is watched more closely than many other agencies, according to Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), a member of the special Senate subcommittee that oversees the Agency's activities. "This is a bare-knuckle operation without kid gloves" and "we have to assume as a world power that we're going to be suspect" in international activities.

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